

Outlook



Maryland
Dance
Ensemble
Cuts the
Rug

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THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FACULTY AND STAFF WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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The Meaning in Numbers

*Rankings Just One
Measure of Quality*

Say what you will about rankings and their importance, but when it comes to a university's prestige and public perception, it seems it's all about the numbers.

Rankings are made up of a complex formula, with variously weighted factors, that can move a university up and down a list many consider a prime indicator of an institution's worth. Movement depends on how much the school is improving, changes in the factors and how well peer institutions are doing. Reputation is especially important.

"When we look at national rankings, for programs ranked, almost every one is built on rep-



utation in some way," says Bill Spann, associate vice president of the Office of Institutional Research and Planning (OIRP). "And reputations are built slowly."

Spann uses a three-tiered diagram to demonstrate that the university's goal of national eminence is attainable. The first tier is quality, the second is a school's reputation and the final tier is eminence. So how does a school know when it's reached that level?

"By comparisons with the peers you identify which are undeniably eminent," answers Spann, adding that rankings are not always indicators of this status. U.S. News & World Report produces the most visible and controversial of several such rankings, evaluating 16 indicators based on information submitted from participating institutions. It does the calculations to produce its annual undergraduate rankings. U.S. News also ranks graduate programs and specialties, and the colleges in which they are housed.

Dubbed the "swimsuit issue" of the magazine, U.S. News' America's Best Colleges issue sells 2.3 million copies, almost double its sales of a normal issue. Not all schools are happy with the attention paid to rank-

See **RANKINGS**, page 3

Fourth Annual Maryland Day a Smashing Success



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA MITCHEL

Though predictions of Saturday rain threatened to dampen Maryland Day festivities, the sun peeked through and gave campus visitors a beautiful day to explore the many activities, performances and other events the university had to offer. Though clouds moved in eventually, the rain held off even through the late afternoon football game at Byrd Stadium.

In its fourth year, Maryland Day draws tens of thousands of people annually who participate in hundreds of activities.

Above, the mall hums with people and activity as the Hope Chinese School (foreground left) and the Gymkana gymnastics group (in the distance near large tent) gear up for crowd-pleasing performances.

Where Research and Farming Meet Extension Educator Shares Knowledge with Farmers

Editors' Note: This is the third in a four-part series, "The Different Faces of Extension," that Outlook is presenting throughout the school year. The university-run Maryland Cooperative Extension program reaches far beyond its agricultural roots. Each feature looks at how educators help individuals help themselves in a variety of ways.

With mud-splattered boots and a broad grin, Ghassan "Gus" Neshawat talks about how excited his family was when they earned \$23 one day last year by selling produce grown on their new farm. For a startup business, this seemed like a lot. In a few weeks, even more dirt rows

will yield organically grown fruits and vegetables that Neshawat says are just the beginning of his new life as a farmer.

For Caragh Fitzgerald, an extension educator with the Howard County Maryland Cooperative Extension office, this kind of enthusiasm is contagious and inspiring.

"The enthusiasm is wonderful," says Fitzgerald. "But we want to get people before we get the phone call, 'I just bought eight acres. What do I do with it to make money?' People really need to be thinking about that before they purchase the land. This

See **FARMING**, page 6

Learning at a Different Level Program Gives Everyone a Chance to Enhance Skills

Thick accents do not interfere with understanding their enthusiasm. It is clear that a love of learning, and a deep appreciation of the facilitator of that process, is what keeps many students enrolled in the university's Adult Learning Program (ALP) classes despite challenging circumstances.

Run out of the Office of Personnel Services, the pro-

gram offers free English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), high school diploma preparation, introductory computer and work-specific training classes four days a week. Barbara Rein, the coordinator and "Ms. Barbara" to many of her students, teaches the high school diploma and computer training courses. Rein recently hired Maud Hinault through an outside company to teach

the ESOL courses. Rein and Hinault share teaching responsibilities with volunteer Al Folop, who has been with the program for 10 years.

Students from all areas of the campus thank supportive supervisors for steering them toward the program.

"In 1998, my boss tell me, 'Mr. Wu, you can take English

See **LEARNING**, page 7

President Prepares Campus for Smaller Budget

With \$5.1 million less in the pot when Fiscal Year 2003 begins July 1, the university will need to come up with \$30 million in new revenues and budget cuts to get through the coming year, President Dan Mote told the campus last week.

The bottom line for the FY 2003 budget is that it is equal to the FY 2002 budget that was left after a \$5.1 million state cost containment exercise in October.

However, the university has new obligations, including \$7.3 million to annualize the cost of living allowance (COLA) that all employees received in January, more than \$7 million dollars to support benefit increases, and nearly \$4 million dollars to support new facilities. The university also will honor earlier funding commitments to programs, Mote said. In addition, the university is required to set aside about \$4 million that could be used for one-time employee bonuses, unless the state of the

See **BUDGET**, page 5

Research and Technology Transfer Celebrated

*Inventions of the
Year Announced*

Nanocomposites that can boost the memory capacity of computer chips by a thousand times, a new network security and management tool that uses three-dimensional visualization of IT network traffic, and novel copper complexes being tested as anti-cancer treatments are winners of the University of Maryland's 2001 Inventions of the Year competition.

The winners were announced recently at a reception held by the university's Office of Technology Commercialization, which sponsors the annual event. Winning inventions are selected each year by an independent

See **INVENTIONS**, page 4

dateline maryland

YOUR GUIDE TO UNIVERSITY EVENTS: APRIL 30-MAY 6

TUESDAY

april 30

10 a.m.-5 p.m., Stabile
Rena TA Art Gallery, Architecture Building. The School of Architecture will show an exhibit that chronicles the history of ancient Stabile, near Pompeii, Italy. The exhibit is open weekdays and will run through May 27. It is made possible by a grant from Istituto Italiana di Cultural. For more information, call 5-6984.

12 p.m., Key Diplomatic Players in U.S. China Policy: China Confidential 0105 St. Mary's Hall. With Nancy Bernkopf Tucker, professor of history, Georgetown University, David Dean, Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation; Julia Chang Bloch presides. Sponsored by the Institute for Global Chinese Affairs. For more information, call 5-0208.

12:30-2 p.m., Really Virtual? Dickinson Landscapes, Art Galleries, and Virtual Reality Technology in Humanities Scholarship 0135 McKeldin Library. With Jarom McDonald, Dickinson Electronic Archives, and Laura Wells-Betz, Romantic Circles Art Gallery. For more information on this and other MITH events, call 5-8927 or visit <http://www.mith.umd.edu>.

4-6 p.m., Helen Zia: Notes of an Asian American Journalist on Racial Profiling, Scapegoating and the U.S. Media Multipurpose Room, Nyumburu Cultural Center. Award-winning journalist Helen Zia is the author of "Asian American Dreams: The Emergence of an American People." This program is part of the celebration of Asian American Heritage Month. For more information, contact Elaine Ting at 5-5358 or yting@deans.umd.edu, or visit www.umd.edu/OMSE.

8 p.m., The Polaroid Stories Robert and Arlene Kogod Theatre, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. This play explores the hard, dangerous world of teenage runaways, weaving mythological stories and characters together with words, feelings and actions of modern-day street kids, resulting in a series of non-linear snapshots of daily life on the street. For more information, call (301)

Correction

In the photo caption for the April 16 issue feature "Directors, Fundraisers and Fun Baked-Goods Makers," University Relations Vice President Brodie Remington's first name was misspelled.

405-ARTS or visit www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.

WEDNESDAY

may 1

12 p.m., Being a Smart Health Consumer 0121 Campus Recreation Center. At this program the Center for Health and Wellbeing will discuss strategies that will help participants find credible information for making healthy choices. For more information, contact Jennifer Treger at 4-1493 or treger@health.umd.edu.

12-1 p.m., Research and Development Presentation 0114 Counseling Center, Shoemaker Bldg. With Jean Carter, psychologist and past president of the Division of Counseling Psychology, speaking on "A Look Ahead: The Future of Counseling Psychology." For more information, call 4-7651.

5:30-6:30 p.m., Supplements: Truth or Trickery? 0121 Campus Recreation Center. Find out about the current research on everything from weight loss supplements to performance-enhancing supplements. Learn the facts in order to protect your body from unnecessary harm. For more information, contact Jennifer Treger at 4-1493 or treger@health.umd.edu.

7-9 p.m., Women and Urban Poverty: A Talk by Kalpana Sharma 1201 Physics. The outstanding feature of most Indian cities today is the increasing number of people living in slums and amidst squalor. The impact of the absence of adequate housing, sanitation and water is felt most by women. How do these women negotiate life under these circumstances? Kalpana Sharma, who has written a book on Dharavi, a slum in Bombay with close to one million people, describes what survival means for poor

women in Indian cities. For more information, call (410) 884-2846 or e-mail rsapana@hotmail.com, or visit <http://www.indiatogether.org/women/events/kalpana01.htm>.

8 p.m., University of Maryland Collegium Musicum: Music of Nueva España Gildenhorn Recital Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Vocal and instrumental performance by the early music ensemble, directed by Tom Zajac. For more information, call (301) 405-ARTS or visit www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.

8 p.m., Awadagin Pratt, Piano & Zuill Bailey, Cello Concert Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$30, \$25 and \$20. For more information, call (301) 405-ARTS or visit www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.

THURSDAY

may 2

5:30-6:30 p.m., Transitions Can Be Tough 0121 Campus Recreation Center. Change can be hard for anyone. Let the Center for Health and Wellbeing help you learn to make smooth transitions in your life. For more information, contact Jennifer Treger at 4-1493 or treger@health.umd.edu.

7 p.m., Physics is Phun 1410-1412 Physics Lecture Halls. For more information, call 5-5994 or visit www.physics.umd.edu/lecdem/phph.htm.

FRIDAY

may 3

12-12:50 p.m., Entomology Colloquium 1140 Plant Sciences. With Scott Ferrenberg, Department of Entomology, speaking on "Interspecific competition and its implications for species abundance: What limits the population size of a rare herbivore?" For more information, call 5-3911 or visit www.entm.umd.edu.

12 p.m., John B. Anderson's Independent Perspective: Reflections on Politics, Reform and Democracy, Past, Present, and Future 0200 Skinner. Anderson has been the chair of the Center for Voting and Democracy, a

non-profit organization devoted to the study of how voting systems affect participation, representation and governance. For more information, contact Shawn J. Parry-Giles at the Center for Political Communication and Civic Leadership at 5-6527 or sp172@umail.umd.edu.

2-4 p.m., Panel on Post-Colonial Representations: Language, Identity and Culture 0105 St. Mary's Hall. The Committee on Africa and the Americas and the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures is hosting the panel that will share with Graduate Students from the University of Maryland and other area institutions their perspectives on questions of language, literature and culture in contemporary Afro-Caribbean and African writers of the Diaspora. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Safoi Babanana, 5-4039 or sbabanae@wam.umd.edu.

4:30-6 p.m., 'Dialogue in the Abstract': Creolization Discourses and the Daily Grind 1140 Plant Sciences. With Aisha Khan of the Departments of Africana Studies and Anthropology, SUNY Stony Brook. Sponsored by the Consortium on Race, Gender and Ethnicity (CRGE). For more information, contact Belinda Wallace at bwalla@wam.umd.edu, or Barbara Shaw Perry at 5-8279.

7 p.m., Physics is Phun 1410-1412 Physics Lecture Halls. For more information, call 5-5994 or visit www.physics.umd.edu/lecdem/phph.htm.

7:30 p.m., Maryland Opera Studio: The Coronation of Poppea Kay Theater, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. One of the major pieces of dramatic opera, Monteverdi's work tells the true story of Roman Emperor Nero and his love of the courtesan Poppea. Tickets cost \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors and \$5 for students. For more information, call (301) 405-ARTS or visit www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.

SATURDAY

may 4

7 p.m., Physics is Phun 1410-1412 Physics Lecture Halls. For more information, call 5-5994 or visit www.physics.umd.edu/lecdem/phph.htm.

SUNDAY

may 5

11:20 a.m., Logic and Entropy American Institute of Physics, One Physics Ellipse, College Park. With Orly Shenker, Department of Philos-

ophy, London School of Economics. Part of the New Directions in the Foundations of Physics conference. For more information, visit <http://carnap.umd.edu/chps/> or call 5-5691.

4 p.m. and 7 p.m., Graduate Concert by Deanna Costa Dance Theatre, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. "Dreaming in Spanish" Masters of Fine Arts Thesis Dance Concert. Cultures and Communities come together in one woman's exploration of identity. Tickets are \$5 general; \$3 students. For more information, call (301) 405-ARTS or visit www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.

7:30 p.m., Maryland Opera Studio: The Coronation of Poppea See May 3.

8 p.m., Piano Division Honors Recital Gildenhorn Recital Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Showcasing outstanding piano students of the School of Music. For more information, call (301) 405-ARTS or visit www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.

MONDAY

may 6

7:30 p.m., Maryland Opera Studio: The Coronation of Poppea See May 3.

For additional event listings, visit the Outlook Web site at www.collegepublisher.com/outlook.

Outlook

Outlook is the weekly faculty-staff newspaper serving the University of Maryland campus community.

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calendar guide

Calendar phone numbers listed as 4-xxxx or 5-xxxx stand for the prefix 314 or 405. Calendar information for Outlook is compiled from a combination of inforM's master calendar and submissions to the Outlook office. Submissions are due two weeks prior to the date of publication. To reach the calendar editor, call 405-7615 or e-mail to outlook@accmail.umd.edu. *Events are free and open to the public unless noted by an asterisk (*).

Maryland Dance Ensemble to Take Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage

The Maryland Dance Ensemble takes its talent on the road next month when dancers will have an opportunity to perform on the Millennium Stage of the Kennedy Center. The Maryland Dance Ensemble is a repertory company in residence in the Department of Dance. Works created by visiting artists, faculty and students are auditioned for each concert series. In an evening of works choreographed by visiting artists and a graduate student, the ensemble of students will bring a highly selected program of dance to the Kennedy Center for the first time.

On Wednesday, May 1 at 6 p.m., 23 students, rehearsed by three members of the dance faculty, Alvin Mayes, Meriam Rosen and Anne Warren, will present six works. "Bench Quartet" by Doug Varone, will begin and end the program with two different casts performing the work.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CLARICE SMITH PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Twenty-three dancers will perform at the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage on May 1 at 6 p.m.

The other works on the program are: "Evidence First Hand" by Aviva Geismar, "Meet-

ing Falling In" by graduate student Jennifer Martinez, "Aperture" by Doug Varone and

"Tender Traps" by David Parker. "The performance is a great opportunity for the Maryland

Dance Ensemble and our students to be seen outside of campus," notes Rosen, professor in the Department of Dance.

Launched in 1997 as part of the Performing Arts for Everyone Initiative, the Millennium Stage has more than 400 people stop by everyday to catch free performances at 6 p.m. In just over four years, the Millennium Stage has brought the performing arts to nearly one million people, some of whom are experiencing them for the first time. "The Kennedy Center is a significant venue for our students' performance," notes Rosen. "Also important is the opportunity for our guest artists to have their works shown before a large and diverse audience."

The Millennium Stage appearances are broadcast on the Internet, so if people can't make it to the Kennedy Center on Wednesday, but can make it to their computer, performances can be watched live.

Rankings: Quality Counts

Continued from page 1

ings from a commercial, non-academic entity. Gerhard Casper, president of Stanford University, wrote a letter to the editor of the magazine, James Fallows, in 1996 questioning the publication's intent and suggesting a move to do away with such an issue.

Recent U.S. News graduate school rankings caused some changes in the University of Maryland's rankings, and while some programs moved down a place or two, some of the changes resulted in upward movement of programs. Computer Science went from 11th to a tie for 12th with Georgia Tech and Engineering moved from 18th to 19th, though overall the university saw several programs place in the Top 25 and Top 10 categories.

"If you want to build a quality program, you can't build it on such rankings," says Nariman Farvardin, dean of the Clark School of Engineering. Some of the departments within the school moved up. "There are so many other indicators of quality. The U.S. News rankings have criteria that I am not personally comfortable with. However, given the fact that they conduct them [somewhat] annually and they receive popular attention, we simply can't ignore them. We should try to help them create a true measure of the quality of an academic program."

One example of how the rankings criterion is questionable, says Farvardin, is in its choice of indicators. When looking at engineering schools, it looks at the percentage of faculty that are members of the National Academies. Most of

those members are senior faculty. "But another important component is the young, energetic faculty hustling every day, interacting with students and working on cutting edge technology. That is the future of your program," he continues. "U.S. News does not look at this component."

Once Maryland is ranked in a particular category, the university counts that ranking until the category is re-evaluated. At present, 65 Maryland programs and/or colleges rank in the Top 25. To help the university measure progress over time, OIRP keeps a log of U.S. News rankings.

"The graduate rankings appear to be on a three-year cycle, but it's not consistent," says Spann. "Furthermore, the methodologies for both the undergraduate and the graduate rankings often change. Some critics have said that part of the reason they change the formulas is in order to generate interest. However U.S. News says it makes the changes simply to improve them. Although the processes are flawed, they are still important."

In an attempt to create a broader base from which to determine the university's standing among its peers, OIRP looks beyond U.S. News to other quality measurement systems such as those from The National Research Council. Compiled in a database of many academic programmatic rankings, maintained by OIRP's Pam Phillips, coordinator of information services, rankings information is presented to state legislators as part of the "Managing for Results" accountability report.

Fire and Rescue Institute Dedicates New Building



PHOTOS BY MONETTE AUSTIN BAILEY

Rescue workers, firefighters and state officials recently celebrated the grand opening of the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute's new headquarters building. The 20,000-square-foot building houses classrooms, office space, conference areas, teaching labs, a multi-media auditorium and in-house copy services. After the trailers temporarily housing the institute were destroyed in last fall's tornado, employees crowded into one of the institute's older training spaces until construction was complete.

Top, the building is ready for a celebration, though storm skies threatened to dampen the day. Above, Steven Edwards (l), director of MFRI, talks with President Dan Mote and Gov. Parris Glendening before the ceremony.



New quality measurement systems such as those by the American Association of Universities (AAU) and the Lombardi Program on Measuring University Quality at the University of Florida are emerging.

"We live in an age of con-

sumerism," says Spann. "The public wants complex issues boiled down to single numbers. This resonates with a public looking for simpler information that can be processed quickly. On the other hand, the quality of an enterprise as complex as

the University of Maryland is difficult to adequately describe in a few bullets. The tension between producing short, brief descriptions of quality and deeper, more informative analyses has only one resolution. We will have to do both."

Living

Stop Dieting! And Listen to Your Body



Jane Jakubczak, University Health Center nutritionist

It's that time of year again. We shed the bulky wool sweaters for more revealing swimsuits, shorts and tanks. We have long forgotten our New Year's resolution to lose weight, just to be reminded of it by April's heat wave.

Unable to zip up last year's summer shorts isn't the only reminder of our expanding waistlines. The media continues to report that we are getting fatter. More than 60 percent of us are overweight or obese, even though we spend more than \$33 billion a year on weight loss products and services.

We continue to be sold on diets being the way to weight loss. Would you follow any other procedure that has only a 5 percent success rate? Approximately 95 percent of dieters regain the weight within two years. Diets don't work!

When I suggest to my clients that they stop dieting, many respond with looks of panic on their faces. "I would feel lost without following a diet" and "If I don't diet I'll get fat" are common reactions. I then point out that diets make us fat. Statistics suggest that for every 100 pounds we lose on diets, we regain 125. After the shock and resistance of letting go of dieting, clients breathe a sigh of relief and ask, "What next?"

What is next is a process called the non-diet approach to weight management. Several of the principles behind this approach include:

1. Listen to your body. We are born with an incredibly tight mechanism for weight control. Internal cues that tell us when we need food (hunger pangs) and when we have had enough (taste acuity drops and hunger subsides, replaced by a feeling of satiety). We have lost this internal mechanism because we have ignored it while dieting. Diets tell you when, what and how much to eat. Also, our "super size value meal" mentality causes us to eat through our fullness. I work with clients to help them get reacquainted with these internal cues.

2. Practice gentle nutrition. Make food choices that honor your health and taste buds.

Healthy eating is defined as eating primarily healthy foods and having a healthy relationship with food. We need to include favorite foods because we are constructing a diet the taste buds will live with for the rest of their lives. After several weeks of adding healthy foods, the nutrient-poor foods begin to get crowded out.

3. Respect your body. "Accept your genetic blueprint. Just as a person with a shoe size of eight would not expect, realistically, to squeeze into a size six, it is equally futile (and uncomfortable) to have a similar expectation about body size. It's hard to reject the diet mentality if you are unrealistic and overly critical of your body shape." (Intuitive Eating, 1995)

4. Experience the enjoyment of moving your body. It is easier to get out of bed for a brisk morning walk because it feels good, as opposed to walking just because it burns calories. Reframe your focus.

Taking the focus away from the scale, calorie/fat counting, or points and placing it on enjoying healthy foods and daily movement because they make one feel better is the goal. As an academic community, we get nervous when we don't have numbers to prove we are doing well. But as many of my clients tell me, "it is so liberating."

"Having the willpower to stay on a diet can give you a temporary sense of power and control, but being an Intuitive Eater gives you a life-long sense of self-empowerment." (Intuitive Eating, 1995)

Interested in learning more about the non-diet approach to weight management? I highly recommend the book "Intuitive Eating" by Evelyn Tribole and Elyse Resch. I will be conducting a weight management series this summer using this approach. Keep an eye on FYI Digest and Outlook for more details.

—Jane Jakubczak, University Health Center nutritionist

Editor's note: Living, a new Outlook health and wellbeing column, seeks to offer the campus community information encouraging healthy living inside and out. Columnists are from the Health Center, the Center for Health and Wellbeing and the Wellness Research Lab.

Inventions: Creativity and Science

Continued from page 1

panel based on creativity, novelty and potential overall benefit to society. Among the 33 past winning inventions, 25 have been licensed or optioned and five are base technologies for university start-up companies.

Physical Science Invention of the Year

The 2001 Physical Science Invention of the Year is a process to create polymer-based nanocomposites that could save chip manufacturers time and money while greatly increasing the memory capacity of computer chips, CDs and other high-density information storage devices. On computer hard disks, data is recorded and stored as tiny areas of magnet-

grated with a network forensics database and deliverable over the Web.

The prototype clearly identifies both normal patterns of network traffic and deviations from the norm and creates multiple views that provide rapid visualization of the network traffic. It also maps the Internet protocol, or IP, session parameters (such as the port and network address) to three-dimensional spatial axes, color and time, which enables accelerated visual data mining and event reconstruction — important keys to network forensics and warding off hackers and cyber thieves.

In addition to network security and forensics, this technology could also be used for remote visualization in telemedicine, visualiza-



PHOTO BY JUDY GUZEWICH

(l to r) Chuan Sheng Liu, interim vice president for research and dean of the Graduate School; Sufi Ahmed and Steven Bullock, research graduate assistants; Peter Kofinas, associate professor of chemical engineering; and James A. Poulos, executive director of the Office of Technology Commercialization.

ized iron or chromium oxide. Peter Kofinas, associate professor of chemical engineering, and research graduate assistants Steven Bullock and Sufi Ahmed have developed a method that produces polymer-templated nanoparticles based on cobalt iron oxide. These nanoparticles have superparamagnetic properties and can act as a data storage material.

The nanoparticles, which are smaller than the wavelength of light, self-assemble at room temperature when created using the method of Kofinas, Bullock and Ahmed. Each individual nanoparticle of the oxide process can hold one bit of information — a zero and a one. Each square centimeter of this nanocomposite oxide can store 110 gigabytes of data per square centimeter, which is 1,000 times more than the information storage capabilities of today's computer chips.

This new memory would be cheaper, faster, denser and non-volatile. It also would use significantly less power. These oxides could be used for many other applications as well, including biomedical applications and magnetic sensor technologies, such as DVD and CD-ROM discs.

Information Science Invention of the Year

It has become increasingly hard to manage and analyze the network traffic dynamics of large-scale networked IT environments. And the traditionally used network visualization tools, which operate in two-dimensional space, are becoming inadequate and aged. To address these problems, Ravindra Kulkarni, a faculty research assistant in the Office of Information Technology, has developed a three-dimensional/four-dimensional network traffic visualization technique that is both inte-

tion of large multiparameter databases, interactive shared data collaboration, metadata visualization, and to enable public access to government and corporate data archives.

Life Science Invention of the Year

Steven Rokita, a professor of chemistry and biochemistry, and Kenneth Karlin, Lei Li and Narasimha Murthy of the Johns Hopkins University, have developed novel copper complexes that are being tested as anti-cancer agents by the National Cancer Institute (NCI). The NCI's initial results show that the copper complexes are able to selectively bind and cause damage to unique structures of DNA, such as those present in cancer cells.

Metals are useful as anti-cancer medicines because they can either bind to DNA or activate the molecular oxygen that people breathe to cause damage to the DNA. Iron and platinum are already used in a number of anti-cancer drugs. The Maryland-Johns Hopkins research partners are hoping to see copper added to that list. One of their copper complexes is now slated for in vivo studies at NCI.

The Office of Technology Commercialization (OTC) at the University of Maryland was established in 1986 to facilitate the transfer of information, life and physical science inventions developed at the university to business and industry. In the past 15 years, OTC has recorded more than 1,075 technologies, secured more than 160 patents and executed more than 550 license agreements, generating more than \$19.5 million in technology transfer income. In addition, 24 high-tech start-up companies have been formed based on technologies developed at the university.

Professor Warns: Watch What You Eat

Scientists, doctors, farmers and consumers can work together in fighting and preventing the spread of foodborne illnesses and antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

In an ongoing project with the Joint Institute for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (a partnership with the university and the Food and Drug Administration), Jianghong Meng, an associate professor in the Department of Nutrition and Food Science in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, is doing research on meats that are causing illness, as well as spreading antibiotic-resistant bacteria to humans.

Meng said the original purpose of the study was to show the scientific community that there is a problem in the food industry. He and his colleagues have found that raw meats do cause illnesses and that some meats do contain antibiotic-resistant bacteria. These studies were conducted on retail meats in the greater Washington, D.C. area. Their current studies are focusing on the impact of those problems on the human body.

"We have organisms in our food supply and a lot of them are resistant to antibiotics," Meng said. "How do we solve the problem?"

According to a pamphlet created by the college, an estimated 76 million cases of foodborne illness occur each year and while most go untreated or unreported, about 325,000 cases require hospitalization and 5,000 are fatal. The bacteria, or pathogens that cause these illnesses include *Campylobacter*, *E. Coli* and salmonella.

Foodborne illness, or any illness that is transmitted through food, can appear in different forms. The most common symptom is diarrhea, but there can also be severe infections that are accompanied by fever and body sores. Such illnesses can be lethal for those who are immunodeficient. To further complicate the matter, when a human is infected with antibiotic resistant bacteria it may compromise the treat-



Nutrition and food science professor Jianghong Meng investigates antibiotic-resistant foodborne pathogens found in retail meats. He said he hopes the research will lead to change, making food and drugs safer.

ment of illness by doctors, Meng said.

The bacteria's development of a resistance to antibiotics has led Meng and his colleagues to the study of how such resistance occurs. The overuse of antibiotics in animals can cause resistance. Antibiotics are used in animals when they get sick as well as to prevent diseases spreading to an entire stock. They are also fed to animals to promote growth. Some bacteria react to these antibiotics by dying, while others survive and multiply. Those surviving bacteria may then become resistant to several kinds of antibiotics.

Some suggestions Meng and his associates have developed are to stop feeding animals for growth promotion and to stop giving animals the same antibiotics used in humans.

Meng said that some companies are aware of the problem and don't like what he is doing. Still, others in the food industry are trying to persuade their suppliers in the animal industry to stop use of anti-

otics and pursue different measures. "Some farms have been active and corresponding. It's promising," he said. He added that Europe has banned the use of antibiotics for growth promotion.

"Food isn't the only problem," Meng said. He warns against antibiotic misuse in the medical community as well. People should only use antibiotics when necessary and with a prescription, following a doctor's instructions, he cautioned. When antibiotic treatments are left incomplete, and the infected bacteria are still alive, those bacteria can become resistant to certain antibiotics as well.

Since this work is done in partnership with the FDA, Meng said, "They will develop their own programs and policy based on our research findings."

Meng, who has been working on this project since 1998, said the group is currently studying the mechanisms of resistance and looking to find out how resistance is transferred between bacteria resistant genes and the association

of mutated bacteria.

"We hope that the information can be useful for new drug development, new antibiotics," he said.

What can the consumer do to prevent foodborne illness?

- Don't eat raw meat or seafood. If you choose to eat sushi, be selective and careful about where it's coming from.

- When preparing meals at home, don't cross-contaminate foods. For example, when cutting raw chicken on a cutting board, clean the board well and wash your hands before chopping vegetables on it.

- When storing cooked food, put it in the refrigerator. Don't leave it out on the stove or countertops.



Notable

Michele Gelfand, an assistant professor of psychology, has received the Ernest J. McCormick Award for Early Career Contributions from the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology (SIOP). One of SIOP's top honors, the award was presented April 12 at the society's annual conference in Toronto and recognizes scientific achievements in industrial-organizational psychology during the early years of a person's career. Gelfand has been on the Maryland faculty since 1996.

Ira Berlin will lead the Organization of American Historians as its 96th president. Berlin is Distinguished University Professor. His most recent book, "Many Thousands Gone: The First Two Centuries of African-American Slavery in Mainland North America (1998)," won the Bancroft Prize for best book in American history, the Frederick Douglass Prize for best book on the history of slavery and the OAH Elliot Rudwick Prize for best book in African American history.

Dominic Cossa, chair of the voice division in the School of Music, was nominated for a Governor's Arts Award. The award is sponsored by Maryland Citizens for the Arts Foundation. Winners will be presented at the ArtSalute Gala on May 8 at the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore. The Governor's Arts Awards are the most prestigious honors given by the state to Maryland artists, educators and businesses that have demonstrated an exemplary commitment to the arts.

Maryland Research magazine, just two years old, received a bronze medal in the CASE competition, special constituency/research magazines. It was one of 20 magazines entered in the competition. University Publications staffers Megan Michael, Tom Ventsias and John Consoli contributed to the publication, which is published by the Office of Research and Graduate Studies.

Constituency Programs announces the appointment of **Paul Allison** as assistant dean for development and alumni Relations in the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences. Allison began his new duties on April 29. A seasoned fundraising professional, he comes to the University of Maryland from senior development positions at Oregon State University and the Institute of Technology at the University of Minnesota.

Budget: Layoffs Not Expected; Tuition Will Increase

Continued from page 1

economy in the fall requires the money to be returned to the state. That would amount to a further \$4 million budget reduction.

Mote said that university leaders will work to find "creative ways to maintain our momentum and continue our large steps forward." To meet these obligations, Mote said he is asking all units to operate on a budget 2 percent lower than the budget they started with last July. Since all units reduced budgets by 1.5 percent last October, this means an additional 0.5 percent less than current operating budgets. In order to raise additional revenues, Mote also plans to ask the Maryland Board of Regents to increase resident

tuition by 5.5 percent and non-resident tuition by 7.5 percent beginning in the fall 2002 semester.

"These last actions I take most reluctantly, but given the circumstances, I see no alternative," Mote said. The president had previously stated his reluctance to increase tuition by more than the long-agreed four percent level except as a last resort.

The university has no plans to lay off current employees, Mote said, but some of the current 500 vacant positions may have to remain vacant after the governor reviews budget reduction plans from each state agency in May.

Mote also announced that the General

Assembly did not support the university's request for merit and COLA funds for 2003. Although there will be no salary increases, "we understand that this decision was necessary to support our dedicated faculty and staff and prevent lay-offs," he said.

There are "indications that this is a short-term problem that will not dim our achievements," Mote said. He noted that research funding and private giving to the university remain strong, and partnerships with government and business are increasing. "As we grow in stature as a research university, we will be called upon more and more to ensure our own success," Mote said. "We are up to the challenge."

Executive Training Group from China Completes IGCA Program

A 27-person executive training delegation from China's Henan Province recently participated in a commencement ceremony after finishing a six-month training program run by the Institute for Global Chinese Affairs (IGCA).

Henan Province, which at 94 million people is one-third the population of the entire United States, is located in eastern China about 400 miles southwest of Beijing and the same distance northwest of Shanghai. The executive training delegation consisted of some of the province's most effective mid-career leaders responsible for implementing reform at municipal, county and provincial levels. This was the second delegation the province has sent to the University of Maryland; the first delegation completed their program in August 2001.

The Advanced Public and Business Leadership Research and Development Program custom-designed by the IGCA for the Henan group is one of the IGCA's Executive Development Programs. Since 1996, the IGCA has offered these programs for mid- to high-ranking executives from the People's Republic of China. They are ranked the best such programs in the world by China's Foreign Experts Administration, a government body that introduces foreign experts to China and coordinates Chinese participation in training programs abroad.

The IGCA's Executive Development Programs bring to America young Chinese leaders most involved in implementing their country's reforms. Here they meet with government, business and academic leaders to discuss how U.S. institutions work and why they work the way they do. With practical examples, these leaders gain understanding of U.S. organizations and professions with which they will be interacting, as well as ideas they can later apply to situations they encounter in China.

During their six-month stay, members of the Henan delegation examined such issues as regional and community economic development, environmental protection, the

legislative process and human resources management. Through the IGCA program, they met with a wide range of state and local authorities and business leaders. They also worked with university faculty from the Robert H. Smith School of Business, the Department of Government and Politics, the School of Public Affairs and other divisions and departments.

In addition to the recent groups from Henan, the campus has hosted training groups from the provinces of Shaanxi, Jiangsu, Fujian, Anhui, Xinjiang and Inner Mongolia; the cities of Beijing, Shanghai, Nanjing and Wuxi; the Ministry of Science and Technology; and the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation. A group from Jiangsu Province completes its program on April 30.

Through its experience with each group of young Chinese leaders it has hosted, the IGCA has learned a great deal about how China is implementing reform at the local level, and in turn the members of each delegation have learned a great deal about how the United States operates. The institute hopes to complete the exchange by sending U.S. government officials, business leaders and scholars to China to learn from the experiences of the different provinces and the country as a whole.

Speakers at the Henan group's commencement ceremony included Vice Governor of Henan Province Chen Quanguo, Minister Counselor in the Education Division of the Chinese Embassy Qian Yichen, Deputy Director of the Department of Policy and Regulation of China's Foreign Experts Bureau Zhang Xinmin, Vice President for University Relations Brodie Remington, IGCA Director and Interim Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies Chuan Sheng Liu, IGCA Executive Director Justin Rudelson, IGCA Professional Programs Director Kenneth W. Hunter, and Li Zhimin, leader of the Henan delegation.

—By Christine Moritz,
Office of International
Programs

Farming: Preserving a Way of Life

Continued from page 1



PHOTO BY MONETTE AUSTIN BAILEY

Above, Caragh Fitzgerald, a Howard County Extension educator, talks with Gus Neshawat about plans for his newly plowed land. Below, a fall showcase of products from Howard County farms.



class slows people down a little bit and gives them more information and time to think," she says. "And we encourage couples to come together."

Neshawat didn't slow down too much. He and his wife, Taghrid, attended Fitzgerald's first Beginning Farmer Series in the fall of 2000. It is designed for those new to farming to collect a wealth of information over four weeks. In the series, Fitzgerald, her collaborator Ginger Myers, an agricultural marketing specialist with the Howard County Economic Development Agency, and invited speakers teach the students about agricultural opportunities, production and management practices, business planning and available resources. Each prospective farmer receives an enormous three-ring binder, which students fill bit by bit with resource information and mock scenarios that include broken machinery and fighting business partners.

Not fazed by the hefty information, Neshawat quit his full-time job as a medical assistant within six months to pursue farming. He now works approximately four of his 17 1/2 acres in Glenwood, Md. under the business name Jasmine Farm, where he also grows herbs.

Neshawat says his wife was hesitant at first, but since they began working the land together, she is "more into it." The couple's youngest, 6-year-old Jasmine, is the most enthusiastic of their four children, who range in age from six to 15.

Fitzgerald came to the county about three and a half years ago finishing graduate school. Home is rural northern Maine, so she understands the pull of farming, getting to "do stuff with your hands and see things grow." She wants to help preserve a way of life. Even now in her home county, high school students get pulled out of school to help with the fall potato harvest.

"Farms are really closely related to lifestyle," she says. "But also we try to get them thinking about the business side of it. I'll ask, 'How's your business plan going?' It helps them think: 'Where do I want to go with this?'"

In the spirit of education under which Extension operates, Fitzgerald worked with Myers to create the beginning farmer class two years ago as a way to disseminate a large amount of information to a large number of people. She would spend 30 minutes or more at a time on the phone answering the same questions about farming over and over. The class also allows Fitzgerald to help indi-

viduals build their knowledge base, while valuing and incorporating what people may already know.

Fitzgerald extends her teach-as-you-go approach to her field work. Instead of simply giving brief answers when asked to visit a farm and troubleshoot crop problems, Fitzgerald tells farmers that she'll come out, but they will have to go with her so she can show them what to look for and help them figure out the source of the problem.

"It gets me on the property and it gets them talking to me and finding out what Extension is about," she says. "I'm always looking for the teachable moment."

Though Extension has always been about taking care of rural families, its move from a more service-oriented organization to one with a stronger educational component means a shift in how agriculture educators (still called ag agents by many) operate. As faculty members based in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, educators teach in non-traditional settings, and they are required to conduct research or other scholarly work and disseminate findings just like their College Park colleagues. So Fitzgerald is excited about an experimental plot of land she is both learning from and teaching with.

The Central Maryland Research and Education Center (CMREC) Clarksville facility is home to some cows, forage crops and a host of researchers. Fitzgerald and fellow educator Bryan Butler, along with collaborators from the USDA Agricultural Research Service are studying just less than a 1/2 acre of the land dedicated to cool-season potential new cover crops, or crops that can hold soil against erosion, suppress weeds, or provide nitrogen to subsequent crops. In particular, they would like to find new crops that work well for organic commercial vegetable farmers. The results also will be useful with non-organic farming techniques.

As Fitzgerald walks through the research plot, she points out what each plant is and talks about how it fared during winter. A trained chemist with a background in soil science, she talks easily about biomass and plants' levels of nitrogen relative to what is needed by the main crops.

"Chemistry is a very controlled system, agriculture is not, though it can be manipulated. We have to make everything work together," she says. "It's one of the things that's really exciting about this. We don't know all the answers here, but we're looking for input from farmers all the time."

As a matter of fact, farmers were recently invited out to CMREC and two local farms to look at the cover crop research and demonstrations of new structures that can be used to extend the growing season. It is a mutually beneficial information loop: what Fitzgerald and her colleagues study, they can share with farmers, who in turn tell them what works and doesn't work on their farms, which is data plowed back into educators' research. Fitzgerald is satisfied with the exchange.

"The heart of Extension is its responsiveness to the local community," she says.

Learning: GEDs to Job Safety

Continued from page 1

classes. 'I was with Work Control and they would page me and I couldn't understand the page. They would have to tell me very slowly,' says Zhen Wu, who now supports lab courses in the Department of Mechanical Engineering as a mechanical engineer. Though he still speaks English with some hesitation, he credits Rein for helping him secure a job more suited to his training. Wu, who was an engineer in China, still drops

and three-ring binders with handouts handy. And she's known for spending plenty of time with students, some of whom work for a long time completing their coursework.

"I'm getting my GED," says Linda Petaway, area supervisor in Cole Field House. "I finished the English part, but I failed math the first time. I've been going there for [a few] years, but off and on. It's work, but I'm going to do it this year."



PHOTO COURTESY OF ADULT LEARNING PROGRAM

Students attend one of the Adult Learning Program's high school diploma preparation classes. (l to r) Arely Villatoro, Cynara Moraes, Victoria Cerna and Robert Bisnath.

in for ESOL classes.

"People come here looking for help with everything from learning how to read to people who want to go to college," says Rein, who's been with the program just over a decade. "Most want to get their high school diploma. Some already have a degree from their country, but need a U.S. diploma to take college courses."

Doris Climes is one such student. Though she isn't taking courses now, Climes, who works with housekeeping in Cole Field House, wants to earn a master's in psychology to go along with the bachelor's she holds from the Dominican Republic. Her goal is to become a workplace counselor. She has taken basic English, conversation and computer classes through ALP. She intends to go back in preparation for taking the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), which is required of international students looking to study in the United States.

"It's going to be hard," she says.

Rein understands. She and Hinault work with students from several countries for whom mastering English is the first step to improving personal and work situations. "You have to go really slow," explains Hinault. "It's hard for people who have been here a long time. They speak English, but not correctly. And there are some beginners who have been here 18 years and can barely speak English. I'm seeing the other side of America." Hinault is from France and has taught in Scotland, Tennessee and Washington, D.C.

Several times a week, students make their way to the ALP program office, housed in Building 006, or the HVAC building. There are no exterior signs that indicate learning is going on inside, but black and white photos of several graduates sit on top of each computer in the lab, each subject grinning and clutching a diploma. Though diploma and college entry testing isn't done on campus, Rein makes sure her students walk into a community college test site as prepared as possible. She keeps shelves of resource books

Petaway, who oversees Climes, says after their 4 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. shift, many of her employees are tired and some don't have adequate transportation, but Petaway encourages any employee who can to take advantage of ALP's courses.

"We're trying to get everyone over there," she says. Since many of the students come from Facilities Management and Dining Services, there are work-specific training programs where students can learn English while they learn measurements, names of cleaning implements and products or about first aid when using chemicals.

"They learn how to dilute chemicals, grounds people learn how to work with ratios and proportions," says Rein. A Dining Services-specific training program helped employees learn names of foods and to understand student requests in the dining halls.

Rein touts the triplicate benefits of ALP; the university, its employees and Rein come away with good things. "People feel good about themselves. They often want to improve other areas of their lives. Some of the supervisors say, 'So-and-so never talked to me before. Now they're talking and asking questions.' It builds confidence. For the most part, students are looked up to for coming here, but sometimes they have to be strong. I tell them that only people who don't feel good about themselves will try to keep you back."

"People thank you every day for doing your job. This is a teacher's heaven."

Interested employees may receive help with their learning needs through classes, a drop-in learning center and/or individual tutoring. Assistance is available on an on-going, as needed basis throughout the year during normal daytime work hours. For information, or to register for classes, contact Barbara Rein, Adult Learning Program coordinator, at (301) 405-5652.



Verbatim

"The deception that a machine could be like a person is troubling to most people, and that's why over the years the repeated attempts to make machines smarter, intelligent, although the designers thought it was cool, is consistently rejected by consumers." (Ben Shneiderman, professor of computer science and founder of the Human Computer Interaction Laboratory, continues his battle to make computers more people friendly and less like designers think they should be. (NPR's All Things Considered, April 18)

"We try to make a big university small," said C.D. 'Dan' Mote Jr., president of the University of Maryland, College Park. "It's like getting in a 747 and sitting on the upper deck. We make it smaller for them but are still giving them access to the whole university." (President Mote speaks about reinventing undergraduate education to the Baltimore Sun, April 21)

"It took in any graduate from a Maryland high school," (William Destler) recalled. The freshman class was at least 5,000 students, and it was expected that many of them would be weeded out. Most introductory classes were large lectures. Facing an unpleasant financial picture, administrators realized they needed to take action. We decided to literally transform the institution and become a nationally recognized undergraduate university," Destler said. "We came up with creative solutions to make the big store small." (Destler, provost of the university and a long-time faculty member, speaks to the Baltimore Sun about the changing face of undergraduate education. April 21)

The distrust and personal attacks between elected officials are not surprising, experts say, because they reflect a larger cultural shift in the last decade. "It used to be when people disagreed they could disagree without being disagreeable," said Eric Uslaner, a political science professor at the University of Maryland who has written about the rise in incivility among politicians. "Nowadays if you don't agree with me there must be something wrong with you." (San Jose Mercury News, April 22)

Vietnam is a war whose next chapter is constantly being rewritten, whose photographic icons, even now, are being reshuffled and reedited. That's not surprising, according to Susan D. Moeller, a University of Maryland journalism professor. In her book "Shooting War: Photography and the American Experience of Combat" (Basic Books, 1989), Moeller writes that at least since the Spanish-American War, still photography has bared "the essence of war for Americans." Even in today's media climate of sound-bite saturation and 24-7 video streaming, she argues, still photographs retain a

unique ability to encapsulate the way we experience and remember wars. "Still photography has contributed the most icons of war to our consciousness..." On the other hand, Moeller says, many early images of the war made by Western photographers were "literally wrapped in the flag." "You have stories told by Larry Burrows of photos he was forced to take for Life magazine, of making the American flag really prominent in pictures of U.S. boats going up and down the Mekong." (Moeller is interviewed by the Los Angeles Times upon the release of a controversial volume of Vietnam war photos taken by North Vietnamese. April 24)

David A. Kirsch, a newly hired assistant professor of entrepreneurship at the University of Maryland's Robert H. Smith School of Business, has received a \$300,500 grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation to study and archive the boom and bust of the dot-com business era. "I've always been attracted to lovable losers. Studying success is so obvious, it's so trite," said Kirsch, who has a doctorate in history of technology from Stanford University... Those who got rich during the boom-and-bust years will have the resources to tell their side of the story, Kirsch said — and likely "blame someone else, you can bet." Instead of delving into the blame game of the dot-com era's high flyers, Kirsch wants "to produce a history of the Internet working class." (Washtech.com, Washington Post, April 24)

Even so, exercise physiologists stop short of prescribing vigorous exercise or a one-size-fits-all workout plan for everyone. "People always ask me, 'What's the best physical activity?'" Hagberg says. "My answer is: the one that you will do. If walking is the upper limit of what you like and will do, then walking it is. We are all individuals and you have to customize this." (James Hagberg, professor of kinesiology, preaches the gospel of exercise, no matter the age of the individual, to The Washington Post, April 23)

Choosing a double major for purely expedient reasons can backfire, says Patricia Cleveland, assistant dean in the University of Maryland's Robert H. Smith School of Business. At the Smith School there had been so many double majors — up to 25 percent — that it was necessary two years ago to impose restrictions because, in Ms. Cleveland's words, "the more double majors, the more demand on faculty resources. Employers like a combination such as business and computer science if the student knows why he is doing it," she says. "He can span both areas; he understands the techniques and knows what users need. It's bad if he isn't clear about his reason beyond 'I kinda like marketing'." (Washington Times, April 22)

For Your Interest

Foundations of Physics Conference

The Foundations of Physics Group affiliated with the newly formed Committee for Philosophy and the Sciences (CPaS) is co-sponsoring a conference titled New Directions in the Foundations of Physics, Friday-Sunday, May 3-5 at the American Institute of Physics in College Park. Funding for the conference comes from the University of Maryland (College Park and Baltimore County campuses), Georgetown University and Johns Hopkins University.

Register by e-mailing your name, institutional affiliation and which days you plan to attend to jhub@carnap.umd.edu. There is a daily on-site registration fee of \$10 (\$5 for students) to cover food costs, payable either by check or cash (credit cards not accepted).

For the program, abstracts of papers and other information, visit <http://carnap.umd.edu/philphysics/calendar.html>. Also check the Web site for any late changes to the program.

For more information, call (301) 405-5691 or e-mail hp26@umail.umd.edu.

New Urbanism and Smart Growth

The School of Architecture and the National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education at the University of Maryland will host the 5th National Academic Symposium on New Urbanism in College Park, Maryland, May 3-5. The symposium will feature presentations on new urbanism and smart growth and related topics such as transportation, environment, public health, technology and urban form, city patterns, and social equity.

For more information, contact Elisa Vitale at (301) 405-6635 or NUSG@ursp.umd.edu, or visit <http://www.smartgrowth.umd.edu/news/newurbanism>.

Better Speech and Hearing Month

May is Better Speech and Hearing Month — a good time to take stock of your own hearing and seek help if you have a problem. Even a very slight hearing loss can have an impact on daily life. You may have hearing loss if you:

- Frequently ask people to repeat themselves
- Often turn your ear toward a sound to hear it better
- Understand people better when you wear your glasses or look directly at their faces
- Lose your place in group conversations
- Keep the volume on your radio or TV at a level that others say is too loud
- Have pain or ringing in your ears

People who see themselves in these statements should see an audiologist for a hearing

Celebrate Spring at The Rossborough Inn



FILE PHOTO BY JOHN T. CONSOLI

The Garden Patio at The Rossborough Inn is open and diners can enjoy the Fair Weather Fare a la carte luncheon menu offered Monday through Thursday, and the all you care to eat luncheon buffet every Friday. Lunch is served from 11:30 a.m. until 2 p.m., weather permitting. Come early as space is limited. Reservations will not be taken for the Garden Patio.

The Main House offers a la carte luncheon service Tuesday through Thursday and a luncheon buffet every Monday and Friday. Reservations are encouraged for the Main House, but not required.

In 1856, The Rossborough Inn became the headquarters for agricultural experimentation at the Maryland Agricultural College. The building was restored in 1940 and since then has been used mainly as the Faculty-Alumni Club. For more information, call (301) 314-8013.

test. Hearing loss is treatable; there is no reason for anyone to miss the important sounds of life.

The university's Speech and Hearing Clinic will offer free hearing screenings during the week of May 6-10 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. each day. Screenings are open to the university community and the general public and will be offered in the clinic, room 0110 Lefrak Hall. Call (301) 405-4218 to schedule an appointment.

John W. King Achievement Award

Nominations for the John W. King Achievement Award, the Student Disability Achievement Award and the Faculty Disability Achievement Award will be accepted through May 1.

The presentation of these awards will take place on Thursday, May 16 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in Hornbake Library on the classroom side.

For further information, contact Dottie Bass at (301) 405-5618 or dbass@deans.umd.edu. RSVP by May 9. This event is hosted by the President's Commission on Disability Issues.

Center for Teaching Excellence Listserv

Sad to see that the Center for Teaching Excellence workshops are done for the semester? Want to keep up with exciting events happening with CTE and share information and ideas about teaching with your colleagues on campus? Subscribe to the CTE listserv (a low-traffic listserv)!

Here's how:

1. Send an e-mail to listserv@listserv.umd.edu
2. Leave the subject line blank
3. In the text of the message

space, type SUB CTETCH-L [firstname] [lastname]. Note: you must use your first and last names.

You should get a confirmation right away. Hope to see you in cyberspace!

For more information, contact the CTE at (301) 314-1287 or cte@umail.umd.edu, or visit <http://www.umd.edu/cte>.

Scholarships for Women

The USM Women's Forum is pleased to announce that the deadline for applications for its Scholarship Program has been extended to Saturday, May 4.

Women students are encouraged to contact Beverly Greenfeig in the Returning Students Office of the Counseling Center, 2201 Shoemaker Building, at bg16@umail.umd.edu or (301) 314-7698.

For more information, contact Chris Aggour at (301) 405-1290 or caggour@arec.umd.edu, or visit <http://www.inform.umd.edu/usmwf/>.

Minority Achievement Awards Reception

The President's Commission on Ethnic Minority Issues established Minority Achievement Awards to recognize faculty, students, staff and individual units that have made outstanding contributions to the University's equity efforts. The awards also recognize those who have worked to improve the racial climate on the College Park campus. Each year PCEMI presents these awards to individuals in each category.

The PCEMI Commission and the President's Office invite you to attend an awards reception on Tuesday, May 7 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Rossborough Inn garden.

Acceptances only by May 1

to the contact person below. (Please identify any special needs you may have.) For more information, contact Jacquie Staton at (301) 405-7211 or jstaton@deans.umd.edu.

Distinguished Historian to Give Rundell Lecture

Linda Gordon, one of the country's most distinguished historians of gender and of 20th-century America, will be giving the 2002 Rundell Lecture in American History at 4 p.m. on May 6. Her lecture, "Whiteness and Citizenship on the Southwestern Frontier, 1900-1945," will take place in the Multipurpose Room of the Nyumburu Cultural Center. The lecture is sponsored by the Department of History and the Center for Historical Studies.

Gordon's lecture marks the last event in this year's Center for Historical Studies program. For more information, contact Stephen Johnson at (301) 405-8739 or historycenter@umail.umd.edu.

Professional Concepts Exchange Conference

Mark your calendars for the 20th Annual Professional Concepts Exchange Conference for non-exempt staff being held on June 3. The purpose of the conference is to promote the goals of professionalism and excellence among the support staff of the University of Maryland. This year's theme is "United We Stand: Strength of the Support Staff." The Professional Concepts Exchange Conference is sponsored by the President's Commission on Women's Issues.

For more information, contact Barbara Scafione at (301) 405-5866 or bscafione@psyc.umd.edu.